

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 023535

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DRAFTED BY: EUR/ RPM: EREHFELD

APPROVED BY: EUR/ RPM: EREHFELD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 023535

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NATO INFO OTTAWA PARIS FEBRUARY 7,
FROM SECSTATE REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 023535

SUBJECT: NATO MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT (NMPA)

REF: USNATO 650

WE DO NOT WANT TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH LETTER, AND BELIEVE
IT SHOULD BE SENT BY CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE
AND NOT ON BEHALF OF REPRESENTATIVES, IF AT ALL. IN ANY
CASE, IF LETTER IS SENT, THE FOLLOWING SHOULD BE CORRECTED:

(1) IN PARA 3, STATEMENT THAT THE MODERNIZED NMPA
" SHOULD SATISFY CANADIAN OPERATION REQUIREMENTS" SHOULD
BE DELETED OR MODIFIED, BECAUSE INASMUCH AS PROPOSED
LETTER ALSO REQUESTS THAT AN ENSEMBLE OF THE DOCUMENTS
BE MADE AVAILABLE, IT IS APPARENT THAT REQUIREMENTS ARE
NOT KNOWN TO COMMITTEE AT THIS TIME, AND THAT STATEMENT
IS THUS AT LEAST PREMATURE.

(2) PARA 3 OF PROPOSED LETTER ALSO STATES... " THIS
AIRCRAFT SELECTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE NATO COUNCIL ON
JANUARY 30, 1959 AS THE BASIS FOR THE EQUIPMENT OF THE
ALLIANCE' S ANTI- SUBMARINE FORCES..." THIS IS IN ERROR.
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THE NMPA WAS SELECTED UNANIMOUSLY AS THE AIRCRAFT TO BE JOINTLY DEVELOPED AND PRODUCED BY THE COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE NMPA CONSORTIUM AND FOR EQUIPPING THE ASW FORCES OF THOSE COUNTRIES. NEITHER THE US (WITH THE P38) NOR CANADA (WITH ARGUS) HAS SELECTED TO USE THE NMPA. GDS. ROGERS UNQUOTE ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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